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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/611,474	07/07/2000	Paul A. Smethers	UWP1P033/1135	6947
22434	7590	03/12/2004	EXAMINER	
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS LLP			ORGAD, EDAN	
P.O. BOX 778			ART UNIT	
BERKELEY, CA 94704-0778			PAPER NUMBER	
			2684	

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/611,474

Applicant(s)

SMETHERS, PAUL A.

Examiner

Edan Orgad

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 8, 9, 20-23 and 26-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-7, 24 and 25 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-4, 9, 20-21, 23, 27-29 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kudoh (US 3 6,008,738).

Regarding claims 1, 20, 27 and 31, Kudoh teaches a method for processing an overloaded key (element 18) on a mobile device (radio pager is a mobile device by definition), said method comprising: receiving a key press of the overloaded key to be processed from a buffer; determining whether the function of the overloaded key has switched; and clearing any subsequent overloaded key presses of the overloaded key from the buffer when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has switched (col. 2, lines 58-67 & col. 3, lines 1-23).

Regarding claims 2, 21 and 28, Kudoh teaches setting a pause period for the overloaded key when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has switched so that subsequent presses of the overloaded key are ignored during the pause period (col. 3, lines 1-11).

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Regarding claims 3, 22 and 29, Kudoh teaches determining whether the overload key press occurred during the pause period; and processing the overloaded key press when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has not switched and said determining determines that the overloaded key press did not occur during the pause period (col. 3, lines 123).

Regarding claim 4, Kudoh teaches determining whether the function of the overload key has switched comprises determining whether the function of the overloaded key has transitioned from a first function to a second function since its last key press (col. 2, lines 58-67).

Regarding claims 9 and 23, Kudoh teaches the mobile device is a two-way mobile communication device having limited input keys, one of the input keys being the overloaded key (fig. 1 & col. 1, lines 47-67).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 8, 26 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kudoh (US 3 6,008,738).

Regarding claims 8, 26 and 30, Kudoh teaches a mobile pager but fails to specifically disclose the mobile device is a personal digital assistant or a cellular phone. However, official

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notice is taken that it is very well known in the art mobile devices to have a personal digital assistant or a cellular phone that is a pager as well. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have Kudoh's mobile pager be a part of a personal digital assistant or a cellular phone in order to further enhance user's needs such as cellular calls, emails etc.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-7 & 24-25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding claims 5-7, the prior art of record fails to specifically disclose the overloaded key is a Clear/Back or Back/Exit or Clear/Back/Exit key that supports a clear function and a back function.

Claims 10-19 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 10, the prior art of record fails to specifically disclose processing a Clear/Back key on a computing device having a display, said method comprising:

- (a) displaying user entered text in a text entry screen on the display of the computing device;
- (b) displaying a cursor at the end of the user entered text on the display of the computing device;
- (c) receiving a Clear/Back key press;

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- (d) determining whether at least one character of the user entered text remains backwards from the cursor;
- (e) deleting the character immediately backwards from the cursor when said determining (d) determines that at least one character of the user entered text remains backwards from the cursor;
- (f) determining whether said deleting has caused no more characters of the user entered text to remain;
- (g) setting a timestamp when said determining (f) determines that said deleting has caused no more characters of the user entered text to remain;
- (h) determining whether a predetermined amount of time has passed since the timestamp was set with respect to a previous Clear/Back key press when said determining (d) determines that no characters of the user entered text remain backwards from the cursor;
- (i) ignoring the Clear/Back-key press when said determining (h) determines that the predetermined amount of time has not yet passed since the timestamp was set; and
- Q) returning back to a prior screen when said determining (h) determines that the predetermined amount of time has passed since the timestamp was set.

Regarding claim 15, the prior art of record fails to specifically disclose processing a Back/Exit key on a computing device having a display, said method comprising:

- (a) receiving a Back/Exit key press while operating in a first application mode on the computing device;
- (b) determining whether a home screen is presently being displayed on the display;

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- (c) returning to display of a prior screen on the display when said determining (b) determines that the home screen is not presently being displayed;
- (d) determining whether the prior screen is the home screen;
- (e) storing a time indication when said returning (c) displays the prior screen if said determining (d) determines that the prior screen is the home screen;
- (f) determining whether the home screen has been displayed for at least a predetermined amount of time based on the stored time indication when said determining (b) determines that the home screen is presently being displayed;
- (g) ignoring the Back/Exit key press when said determining (f) determines that the home screen has not been displayed for at least the predetermined amount of time; and
- (h) exiting the first application mode when said determining (f) determines that the home screen has been displayed for at least the predetermined amount of time.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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US 2002/0058536 Mobile phone.

US 2002/0028697 Electronic device.

US 6,580,917 Mobile station for use in mobile radio systems.

US 6,008,738 Radio display pager with reduced manually operated keys.

US 5,864,765 Method and arrangement relating to mobile telephone terminals.

US 5,247,565 Cellular telephone with keypad controller.

US 4,945,556 Method of locking function of mobile telephone system.

US 4,908,848 Apparatus for controlling calls in a mobile communication system.

US 5,486,846 Intelligent keypad overlay for portable personal computers.

WO 96/32824 A radio unit for connecting fixed subscriber station to a WLL station.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edan Orgad whose telephone number is 703-305-4223. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM to 5:30PM with every other Friday off..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edan Orgad can be reached on 703-305-4223. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

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may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Edan Orgad


3/4/04


NAY MAUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER